

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

No. 1008

Washington, D. C.

October 21, 1944

CANNED TOMATO PRODUCTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE 1944 SUBSIDY PROGRAM FOR CANNED VEGETABLES BY VINSON

The Office of Economic Stabilization, in a directive effective October 7, authorized the War Food Administration to add canned catsup, tomato paste, tomato puree, tomato sauces, tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices, and tomato cocktail to its 1944 subsidy program for canned vegetables. The new directive also supersedes two previous directives issued on canned vegetable subsidies and incorporates the entire 1944 canned vegetable subsidy program into one directive. The addition of tomato products to the subsidy was requested by the Canned Tomatoes and Tomato Products Industry Advisory Committee at its meeting August 7.

Canned tomatoes and tomato juice were included in the directive issued July 17 by Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson and canned tomato soup was added August 8. Other canned vegetables from the 1944 pack which will be subsidized include canned peas, pea soup, corn, and snap beans.

The details have not been worked out for handling subsidy payments on the new group of tomato products; however, it is believed, the method which will be used will be similar to that in effect for tomato soup, and that the subsidy rate will be determined by the increase in the cost of raw tomatoes. For convenience in administration, the rate of payment may be in terms of the finished product this year, rather than on the basis of tonnage, as it was last year.

The details of this program are now being developed by WFA and will be sent to all tomato canners as soon as available. Official text of the Vinson directive follows:

My directive on payment of subsidies on products processed from the four major vegetables, dated July 17, 1944, and amended August 8, 1944, is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The War Food Administrator having submitted certain information and recommendations to me on July 6, 1944, August 2, 1944, and September 29, 1944, and the Price Administrator having submitted certain information and recommendations to me on July 15, 1944, September 22, 1944, and October 4, 1944, with reference to a program for the payment of subsidies on eligible sales

made during the period March 1, 1944, to April 30, 1945, both dates inclusive, with respect to canned commodities processed from green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, and tomatoes, and establishment of maximum prices for the 1944 pack of these commodities, I hereby find that:

(a) The payment of the subsidy with respect to canned green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato soup, green pea soup, tomato catsup, tomato paste, tomato puree, tomato sauces, tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices, and tomato cocktail, will effectuate the purposes of the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942, as amended, the Stabilization Act of 1942, as amended, and Executive Orders Nos. 9250 and 9328;

(b) The payment of the subsidy on completed sales of canned green peas, (Continued on page 8417)

ASSOCIATION'S TRAFFIC COMMITTEE URGES CANNERS TO REDUCE THE USE OF REFRIGERATOR CARS TO MINIMUM

Every indication at the present time points to a shortage of refrigerator cars for the period during which the canning industry will require them. Current loadings of perishables in refrigerator cars greatly exceed last year's figures for the corresponding period. The need is apparent for the canning industry to reduce its refrigerator car demands on an even greater percentage basis than that applied early this year in response to an appeal made to the industry by the Association's Traffic Committee on January 24 last.

An urgent appeal is now made to the

Canned Salmon Shipments Urged

Because of an Interstate Commerce Commission order requiring all canned salmon shipped after November 15 to be shipped in refrigerator cars, the War Food Administration is urging all salmon canners to ship as much of their packs as possible prior to this date in order to avoid delays in shipment due to the shortage of refrigerator cars. Canned salmon can be shipped in boxcars up until November 15, the WFA said, thereby permitting the movement of larger shipments since more canned salmon can be loaded in a boxcar than in a refrigerator car.

Storm Seriously Damages Florida Citrus Crops

Serious damage was caused to Florida citrus crops by the hurricane that swept across that State in a general northeasterly direction from Tampa to Jacksonville on October 19. Accurate estimates of the damage were not available as the INFORMATION LETTER went to press, but two growers' organizations report the grapefruit loss at 25 to 50 per cent and the orange loss at 15 to 25 per cent. Grapefruit canning in Florida ordinarily begins late in November, with the plants getting into full swing in January. Damage to the trees in citrus groves can be appraised only after a detailed survey is made.

members of the industry to ration their refrigerator car requirements by at least 50 per cent, the degree of rationing depending upon the supply and demand. The Association's Traffic Committee again points out the advantage of voluntary rationing versus compulsory orders. Cooperation by refrigerator car users during critical periods in the past has resulted in fewer and less stringent car service orders. The Committee, after conference with the government regulatory agencies, has been assured that the canning industry will continue to receive the same consideration that has resulted in a minimum loss to the canning industry in the past.

Canners should use refrigerator cars only where circumstances and conditions indicate that merchandise may suffer damage if they are not used. Boxcars should be used to the fullest extent practicable in such territories and at such times as do not present the hazard of extreme cold.

In effect at the present time is ICC Car Service Order 219 prohibiting the use of refrigerator cars for canned goods loading. The Traffic Committee, has been assured that the order will be modified or cancelled in the near future, available car supply permitting.

Tin Plate Production in 1945 Can be Increased, WPB is Told

Increased production in the tin plate industry for the first quarter of 1945 will present no manpower problems, members of the Tin Plate Industry Advisory Committee told the War Production Board at a recent meeting. If steel allotments to the industry in the first three months of 1945 are increased, facilities and manpower will be sufficient to roll that amount of material, industry members reported.

Facilities and manpower have been ample to roll the 750,000 tons of steel allotted the tin plate industry during the fourth quarter, they said, adding that some spaces will be open in their December scheduling. WPB spokesmen stated that after all fourth quarter allocations are made, a survey will be taken to see if an additional allotment can be authorized in December. An extra allotment of 3,000 tons of tin plate has been made for export in addition to the 140,000 tons allotted for export at the beginning of the fourth quarter. WPB officials also reported that only a small percentage of the 15,000 tons of black-plate rejects which were offered to the industry has been utilized for civilian production under Priorities Regulation No. 25. The bulk of these rejects, they said, will go to crown cap manufacturers.

To conserve manpower, committee members recommended the use of quarter pound electrolytic tin in place of special coated manufacturing ternes for oil cans. The electrolytic method is a simpler process than the special coated manufacturing ternes operations and requires fewer operators.

WFA Releases 318,600 Tons of Dried Fruits for Civilians

The War Food Administration has authorized packers of dried fruits, principally raisins and prunes, to release substantial quantities of the 1944 pack into civilian channels as rapidly as possible so that they may be available for the holiday trade.

Present authorizations to packers under War Food Order 16, applied to the estimated 1944 production of the respective dried fruits, will make available in civilian trade channels approximately 133,000 tons of raisins and Zante currants, 95,000 tons of dried prunes, 5,000 tons of dried peaches and 2,500 tons of dried apricots. WFO 16 requires packers to set aside their entire packs of dried apples, apricots, peaches, prunes, raisins and Zante currants to insure the availability of government requirements. However, quantities

above these needs are released by WFA for civilian consumption. Authorizations are not required for the sale of figs and dates in civilian trade channels, as they are not covered by the order.

Release of the specified quantities is based on the allocation of the 1944 dried fruit pack by WFA to U. S. civilians, the military and war services, and to our allies and friendly nations. Though the quantity allocated to civilians for the marketing year ending August 31, 1945, is slightly smaller than was allocated last year—318,600 tons compared with 352,800 tons—the current action of WFA makes it possible to get the fruits into trade channels much earlier than was possible last year.

Contract Changes Relate Only to Newly Included Products

Recently the Commodity Credit Corporation forwarded to each affected canner Amendment No. 1 to the subsidy contract for canned vegetables and vegetable products. This amendment makes four changes in the subsidy contract to provide for the inclusion of canned tomato soup and canned green pea soup among the products the sale of which may be made the basis for a claim under the subsidy program.

The inclusion of these products required changes in several sections of the agreement to provide for the computation of payments and for the forms on which such payments may be claimed. These changes also will permit sales made after the 1944 canned tomato soup and canned green pea soup prices are announced, to be subsidized by the difference between the gross maximum price and whatever civilian ceiling price is established by OPA.

Apple Picking Rates Increased

The maximum wage rate for picking Winesap apples in Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan Counties, Washington, has been increased to 12 cents per 35-pound box by the War Food Administration in Amendment 1 to Specific Wage Ceiling Regulation 24. The increased rate became effective October 12.

Dietitians to Meet in Chicago

The Home Economics Division of the National Canners Association will be represented by Marjorie H. Black and Katherine R. Smith at the American Dietetic Association Convention which will be held in Chicago at the Palmer House, October 25 through 27.

Miss Smith has been in Kansas con-

ferring with home economic leaders at Kansas City, Lawrence, Topeka, and Manhattan.

Canned Clam Prices Increased

By amendment 2 to Maximum Price Regulation 448, effective October 23, the Office of Price Administration has permitted Pacific Coast canners to reflect increases averaging 65 cents per dozen for No. 1/2 Flats of canned butter clams or little neck clams. This increase was necessary because ceiling prices previously fixed for these items were too low in relation to increased production costs and canners faced out of pocket losses in their operations, OPA said.

Prices are fixed for whole and minced clams in all can sizes. These prices are fixed f.o.b. cannery for domestic production, and f.o.b. Seattle for Alaskan production. The increases in the larger size can are similar to the increase in the No. 1/2 flat can. Prices per dozen cans at the cannery level are as follows: No. 1/2 Flat, \$2.15; No. 1 E.O. (or Picnic), \$2.70; No. 1 Tall, \$4.10; No. 2, \$5.00; and No. 10, \$22.45.

State Convention Dates

Florida—October 27, Tampa Terrace Hotel, Tampa.

Indiana—November 16 and 17, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

Iowa-Nebraska—December 7 and 8, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines.

Maine—December 11, Eastland Hotel, Portland.

Michigan—November 2 and 3, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids.

Minnesota—December 14, Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis.

New York—December 14 and 15, Hotel Statler, Buffalo.

Northwest Canners Association—January 3, 4, and 5, Hotel Multnomah, Portland.

Ohio—December 12 and 13, place to be announced.

Pennsylvania—November 9 and 10, Yorktowne Hotel, York.

Southern California Food Processors Association—December 5, place to be announced.

Texas—November 6, Casa de Palmas Hotel, McAllen.

Tri-States—November 30-December 1, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City.

Virginia—December 6, Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke.

Wisconsin—November 13 and 14, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.

TOMATO PRODUCTS SUBSIDY

(Concluded from page 8415)

snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, and tomato juice will greatly facilitate the administration of the subsidy program;

(c) Under Maximum Price Regulation No. 306, which continues in effect with respect to the above-mentioned commodities (other than canned tomato soup, canned green pea soup, and canned tomato cocktail), until establishment of new maximum prices for the 1944 pack of those commodities, canners cannot comply with the increases over 1943 support prices established by the 1944 grower support program of the War Food Administration, without provision for a correspondingly higher subsidy;

(d) The establishment of maximum prices (1) for sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of canned green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and tomato juice, which will reflect in each case approximately the average of the maximum prices established for similar sales of such commodity in 1943; (2) for sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of canned tomato catsup, tomato paste, tomato puree, tomato sauces, tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices, and tomato cocktail, which will reflect in each case no more than the average prices paid for the raw product in 1942; and (3) for all other canned products (except canned tomato soup and canned green pea soup) produced wholly or in part from the four major vegetables, which will reflect increases in raw material and other costs pursuant to my Directive of April 6, 1944, will effectuate the purposes of the Emergency Price Control Act of 1942, as amended, the Stabilization Act of 1942, as amended, and Executive Orders Nos. 9250 and 9328, by aiding in the effective prosecution of the war through encouragement of production; and

(e) The agreed pricing method for the 1944 pack of canned fruits and vegetables will be fulfilled.

2. The Office of Price Administration is hereby authorized and directed:

(a) To establish maximum prices for sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of canned green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and tomato juice, which will reflect in each case approximately the average of the maximum prices established for similar sales of such commodity in 1943;

(b) To establish maximum prices for sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of tomato catsup, tomato paste, tomato puree, tomato sauces, tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices, and tomato cocktail, which will reflect in each case no more than the average prices paid for the raw product in 1942;

(c) To establish maximum prices for all other canned products (except canned tomato soup and canned green

pea soup) produced wholly or in part from the four major vegetables, which will reflect increases in raw material and other costs pursuant to my Directive of April 6, 1944; and

(d) To determine and furnish to the War Food Administration, as soon as calculations have been completed, the amount of subsidy necessary to maintain the 1943 level of maximum prices for sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of canned green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and tomato juice, and to calculate this subsidy by computing the difference in each case between the 1943 average price for those sales and the mid-point of the 1944 range of gross maximum prices.

3. The War Food Administration is hereby authorized and directed, by use of the Commodity Credit Corporation's funds:

(a) To absorb the differentials from the 1944 gross maximum prices established by the Office of Price Administration for sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of canned green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and tomato juice;

(b) To subsidize canned green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes and tomato juice, in each case until the effective date of a new regulation (or amendment) for the 1944 pack of the product, by absorbing the increased cost of the raw material of the four major vegetables; and

(c) To subsidize sales to purchasers other than government procurement agencies of canned tomato soup, canned green pea soup and canned tomato catsup, tomato paste, tomato puree, tomato sauces, tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices, and tomato cocktail, by continuing to absorb the increases by area between the average prices paid in 1942 and the 1944 grower support prices for processing for tomatoes and green peas used in producing these commodities.

83 Per Cent of Apple Crop to Go to Civilians, WFA Reports

The War Food Administration said October 19 that U. S. civilians have been allocated more than 103 million bushels of apples for consumption in fresh and processed form during the 12-month period ending next July. This is 83 per cent of the estimated 125 million-bushel total supply, and 13 pounds per capita more than was available to civilians last year.

More than 21 million bushels remaining, or 17 per cent of the supply, have been allocated to the U. S. military services and to our allies and U. S. territories—60 per cent in processed form.

Production of commercial apples this year is estimated (as of October 1) at 122.6 million bushels compared with 80.7 million bushels last year. The

allocable supply of nearly 125 million bushels includes processed stocks on hand, and expected imports of fresh apples and concentrates.

With the exception of dried apples, U. S. civilians will get substantial quantities of processed apple products during the year. WFA has allocated to them 338 million pounds (65 per cent) of canned apples; 72 million pounds (46 per cent) of apple butter; 49 million pounds (99 per cent) of frozen apples; 66 million pounds (79 per cent) of apple jellies; 497 million pounds (95 per cent) of cider vinegar; and 80 million pounds (100 per cent) of apple cider. The combined total (all farm weight measurements) will give U. S. civilians 1,043 million pounds, or 63 per cent, of the total quantity of processed apples estimated to be available. All dried apples have been allocated to our armed forces and to our allies and territories.

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Held in Cold Storage

Stocks of frozen fruits in storage on October 1, 1944, totaled 297,885,000 pounds against 246,472,000 on September 1, 1944, and 223,965,000 on October 1, 1943, according to the War Food Administration. Frozen vegetable stocks on October 1, 1944, were 178,017,000 pounds against 166,355,000 on September 1, this year, and 165,200,000 on October 1, 1943. The following table furnishes details by commodities:

	Oct. 1, 1943	Sept. 1, 1944	Oct. 1, 1944
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
FROZEN FRUITS			
Apples.....	6,506	7,318	
Blackberries.....	13,963	8,095	14,542
Cherries.....	25,237	51,274	46,989
Young, Logan, Boyesen, etc.....	5,872	10,445	10,488
Raspberries.....	19,900	17,358	16,364
Strawberries.....	31,117	30,584	25,408
Grapes.....		3,735	12,757
Plums and prunes.....		3,115	15,162
Peaches.....		13,211	32,428
Fruit juices and purees.....		13,000	15,828
*All other fruits.....	127,876	89,129	100,601
Total.....	223,965	246,472	297,885
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus.....	4,887	6,248	5,870
Beans, lima.....	8,620	3,441	9,089
Beans, snap.....	15,383	11,910	17,244
Broccoli, green.....	1,104	2,879	2,685
Cauliflower.....		1,088	1,537
Corn, sweet.....	14,177	6,895	15,785
Peas, green.....	54,516	60,704	57,671
Spinach.....	7,509	10,740	9,865
Brussels sprouts.....		1,862	1,929
Pumpkin and squash.....		2,696	3,071
Baked beans.....		4,924	3,754
Vegetable purees.....		475	1,167
All other vegetables.....	55,933	52,948	48,300
Total.....	165,200	166,355	178,017

* Blueberries included with "All other fruits."

WEST COAST CANNERS MAY USE ADJUSTABLE PRICING IN THEIR SALES TO THE ARMY, OPA HAS ANNOUNCED

Canners who sell or deliver canned fruits, berries or vegetables to government procurement agencies may do so under "adjustable pricing" contracts if the commodities were canned in California, Washington or Oregon, the Office of Price Administration announced October 18.

Subject to an agreement with the buyer in each case, "adjustable pricing" permits the price to be determined after delivery or sale, on the basis of any new maximum prices which may be established by OPA.

In the case of canned fruits, berries or vegetables canned in California, Washington or Oregon, new maximum prices may be necessary because of increased wage rates for cannery workers, OPA said.

Such increases have already been approved by the Twelfth Regional Office of the War Labor Board and by the National War Labor Board for canning factories located in Oregon and Washington. Similar increases for canning factories in California are being considered.

The Price Administrator has proposed to the Economic Stabilization Director that any approved wage rate increase be absorbed by subsidy when sales are made to civilian purchasers.

If the increases are made retroactive to March 1, 1944, the date approved in some instances by the Twelfth Regional Office of WLB, practically the entire 1944 production would be affected, OPA said.

In pricing the 1944 pack, OPA has sought to keep profits for the canning industry as a whole at the profit level for the years 1940-41. Labor costs were figured in most cases at the 1943 level. Thus, if the wage rates are increased, selling prices may have to be increased to offset the higher costs.

Since about September 11, after discussions with OPA, the Army Quartermaster Corps has made provision in contracts with canners in the three States involved, for increased maximum prices if established by OPA, to reflect wage rate increases approved by WLB. Official text of Order 1 follows:

For the reasons set forth in an opinion issued simultaneously herewith, and in accordance with Section 14(1) of Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation No. 1, it is ordered:

(a) That sales and deliveries of the products covered by Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation No. 1 may be made by processors to government

procurement agencies in cases where the goods are processed in factories located in California, Oregon and Washington, subject to an agreement between the buyer and seller in each case, that the price shall be adjusted to conform to any new maximum price, based on wage rate increases approved by the National War Labor Board, which may be established by the Office of Price Administration after delivery.

In any such sale the processor shall not invoice the goods at a price higher than the maximum price in effect at the time of delivery nor shall he receive payment of more than that price until permitted by action taken by the Office of Price Administration.

(b) This Order shall apply to sales and deliveries made on or after September 11, 1944, under adjustable pricing contracts.

(c) This Order may be revoked or amended by the Price Administrator at any time.

This Order shall become effective October 18, 1944.

Townson on Food Mission

Douglas C. Townson, who has served as Director of the War Production Board's Food Division and with the Office of Production Management, and more recently with the consultation panel of the War Food Administration's Office of Distribution, is now in England to study the problem of feeding the occupants of liberated countries in Europe. Mr. Townson has been assigned to the State Department to represent the WFA and other food agencies on the U. S. Mission of Economic Affairs, and also will represent these agencies in conferences on Lend-lease.

Mr. Townson, who is president of Curtice Brothers Co., will consult with officials of the British Food Ministry and members of the Allied Supreme Headquarters staff.

Howard T. Cumming will be acting head of the Curtice firm during Mr. Townson's absence.

Arnold Joins Knouse Firm

The appointment of Ralph E. Arnold as vice-president in charge of production and purchases for the Knouse Corporation at Peach Glen, Pa., has been announced by M. E. Knouse, president of the firm.

Mr. Arnold joins the Knouse firm after nearly three years of service with the War Production Board and the

War Food Administration, having served these agencies in several capacities. His last position was chief of the priorities and allocations branches of WFA's Office of Materials and Facilities. Prior to his service with WPB and WFA, Mr. Arnold was connected with the C. H. Musselman Company at Biglerville, Pa., from 1929 to 1941, when he resigned as vice-president.

Higher Demurrage for Boxcars

Demurrage rates on boxcars have been increased again by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a new order, effective from October 19 to November 19, which fixes demurrage charges of \$2.20 per car per day for the first two days; \$5.50 per car per day for the third day; \$11 per car per day for the fourth day; and \$16.50 per car per day for each succeeding day on boxcars not loaded or unloaded within the free time provided by tariffs.

Tuna Fish Prices Increased

By Amendment 37 to Maximum Price Regulation 418, the Office of Price Administration is increasing fishermen's prices for sales of round albacore (tuna fish) to canners in Washington, Oregon, and California by 3¼ cents per pound, effective October 23. The increase is necessary, OPA said, to meet the requirements of the Stabilization Extension Act of 1944, which stated that fishermen's prices can be no lower than the 1942 average prices. Since most tuna fish is canned, OPA said it will examine canned tuna fish prices to see if adjustments are necessary.

Information Letter Index

With this issue of the INFORMATION LETTER there is mailed an index of the LETTER for the first six months of 1944. Ordinarily this index would have been published early in July but shortage of help delayed its preparation.

Fishing Industry Conference

A program for the reconversion of the Nation's fisheries from their war-time status will be outlined on October 23 and 24 when representatives of the fishing industry meet in Washington at the invitation of Coordinator of Fisheries Harold L. Ickes. The conference will review present government controls and programs as they affect the fishing industry and will lay plans for maintaining production at the required levels under current conditions and for assuring the stability of the industry during reconversion.

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 28, 1944

Owing to a labor controversy between the typographical union and commercial printing establishments in Washington, it was impossible to have the INFORMATION LETTER for October 28 printed, and this mimeographed bulletin is issued to cover the more important items that would have otherwise appeared in the LETTER.

Refrigerator Car Order Issued

The Interstate Commerce Commission, on October 23, issued the expected order referred to in last week's INFORMATION LETTER, on the use of refrigerator cars. The order, which is effective on November 15, states:

"(a) On and after 12:01 a.m., November 15, 1944, no common carrier by railroad subject to the Interstate Commerce Act shall furnish or supply a standard or giant RS type refrigerator car for the loading of, or transport or move a standard or giant RS type refrigerator car or cars loaded with canned or preserved foodstuffs (not cold pack), bottled beer or other bottled malt liquors or bottled wines within or between points in the States of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

"(b) It is further ordered that diversion orders shall not be accepted on a standard or giant RS type refrigerator car or cars loaded with canned or preserved foodstuffs (not cold pack), bottled beer or other bottled malt liquors or bottled wines originally billed or shipped from the States of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas to States other than those named for diversions to destinations within the restricted States.

"(c) It is further ordered that this order shall not prevent the furnishing of PFE or SFRD refrigerator cars for loading under provisions of Service Order 104."

Wages Set for Harvesting Citrus Dropped by Storm

Ceilings have been placed by the War Food Administration on wage rates for emergency harvesting of citrus fruit dropped in Florida groves by the hurricane last week, through issuance of Specific Wage Ceiling Regulation 35, effective October 19 and terminating November 10 at midnight. This new order does not amend, modify, or supersede Specific Wage Regulation 21 except where it applies to service performed on grapefruit and oranges dropped by the hurricane.

For picking up grapefruit, grading in grove to meet packing house and

canning plant regulations, loading in boxes, and dumping in bulk in trucks in grove — the wage rate is 9 cents per standard field box or equivalent measure or weight. Where all grapefruit are cleaned up off the ground and not graded in the grove — 4 cents for picking up and placing in boxes, with an additional 2 cents for loading in bulk in trucks in grove, making a total of 6 cents per standard field box or equivalent measure or weight.

For oranges the corresponding rates are 17 cents, 8 cents, 2 cents, and 10 cents.

Unlimited Tin for Citrus

Because of storm damage to the Florida citrus crop, and the necessity for prompt packing of all edible oranges and grapefruit now on the ground, the War Production Board, in collaboration with the War Food Administration, has authorized the unlimited use of metal cans for the packing of grapefruit segments and juice, orange juice, and blended orange and grapefruit juice. The action, taken in Directive No. 6 to Conservation Order M-81, suspends metal can packing quotas on the specified items for the duration of the directive.

Industry Traffic Representatives to Hold Conference

Representatives of the canning industry who will attend the annual meeting of the National Industrial Traffic League in New York City on November 16 and 17 have arranged to hold a conference at the Pennsylvania Hotel on the afternoon of November 15, at which they can discuss the question of dual minima rates on canned foods.

Rail carriers, it is stated, realize the economic benefits from shippers' cooperation and from orders of the Office of Defense Transportation with respect to maximum loading of cars, and have expressed a wish for continuation of such benefits after the war emergency ends. Shippers, on their part, have been considering the advisability of asking the carriers to establish dual minima rates for future application at commercial carload minimum and present emergency ODT loading requirements. The conference of canners' representatives will be in the nature of a preliminary discussion to develop the basis for such further action as may be found desirable.

Proposed Regulation for Canned Oysters Issued

A proposed regulation covering the standard fill of container for canned oysters, along with the findings of fact, was published in the October 20, 1944, issue of the Federal Register by the Food and Drug Administration. Hearings on this regulation were held in Washington August 22 and 23. (See INFORMATION LETTERS 995 and 1000, pages 8321 and 8362.)

The proposed regulation prescribes that the "standard fill of container for canned oysters when the drained weight of the oysters in the can after processing averages less than $\frac{1}{2}$ avoirdupois ounce per oyster is a fill such that the drained weight of oysters taken from each container is not less than 68 per cent of the water capacity of the container."

The regulation also sets out the method of determining the drained weight, and prescribes the labeling for containers not meeting the specified fill.

Any interested person whose appearance was filed at the hearing may, within 20 days from date of publication of the proposed regulation, file written exceptions.

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Planning Committee to Meet

Chairman Howard T. Cumming of the Association's Planning Committee has issued a call for a meeting of the Committee to be held at the N.C.A. office on November 4 and 5.

Government agencies now have under consideration the food production program for 1945, and the Planning Committee will discuss the various questions involved so as to develop industry recommendations that may be presented to the different agencies for their consideration.

Oyster Regulation Amended

Certain sections of the Food and Drug Administration regulations covering the inspection of canned oysters have been amended in regards to shucking oysters and shucking equipment for oysters. The regulations first were published in the Federal Register of January 4, 1944, and amendments were published in the February 2 and June 15, 1944, issues. The latest amendment appears in the October 21, 1944, issue of the Federal Register.

QMC Urges Cannerymen to Buy V-2 Boxes Now to Assure Delivery

To encourage cannerymen to place orders for V-2 boxes during a period when fibre box manufacturers normally are not up to capacity production, the Office of the Quartermaster General has authorized QMC depots at Jersey City, N.J., Chicago, Ill., and in California to guarantee purchases of V-2 boxes and sleeves by all cannerymen for 1945 export military requirements of canned fruits and vegetables up to 50 per cent of the individual canneryman's 1944 export quota for the Army and Navy.

The QMC said the guarantee to purchase the V-2 boxes and sleeves will cover 50 per cent of the export box quotas for the Army and Navy on each item included under War Food Order 22.6; however, cannerymen must place their orders for boxes prior to December 15, 1944, to be assured of the guarantee. The guarantee does not apply to V-3 or domestic boxes or strapping materials.

High Labor Priority Extended

The "B" priority for inter-regional manpower recruitment activities granted the food processing industry by the War Manpower Commission on July 26 has been extended to February 1, 1945. The "B" priority, which is established by the National Manpower Priorities Committee, places the canning industry near the top of the manpower recruitment list. The priority will be used by the War Manpower Commission and the U.S. Employment Office in assigning workers to food processing plants. (See INFORMATION LETTER 997, page 8336.)

Processors Buy Bulk of Surplus WFA Canned Foods

The War Food Administration has released the following information on sales of surplus government-owned canned vegetables from May 1 to October 1: Canned corn -- 542,000 cases sold to the original or competitive processors, and 15,770 cases sold to a cannery owned by a chain store organization; canned peas -- 177,000 cases sold to the original or competitive processors; canned sauerkraut -- 45,904 cases sold to original processors, 35,006 cases to wholesalers, and 8,100 cases to chain stores; canned pumpkin -- 76,700 cases to original processors, 28,063 to wholesalers, and 15,399 to chain stores. Cumulative and comparative figures on sales of other items were not published with the report.

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Packing Quotas for Canned Meats

Packing quotas for November and for December, 1944, have been established at 7½ per cent of a packers' 1944 packing quota for certain meat and meat product items under Schedule II, according to Direction 5 to Conservation Order M-81 issued October 23, by the War Production Board. Text of the order follows:

"(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (b) of this order putting packing quotas on an annual basis, no person shall, during each of the following months, purchase, accept delivery of or use for packing items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Schedule II of the order for purposes other than those exempt from the quota in the headnote to Schedule II, more cans than 7½ per cent of his 1944 packing quota for such items: (1) November, 1944; (2) December, 1944.

"(b) This direction shall not apply to (1) a small user as provided for in paragraph (m) of the order, and (2) cans used for packing under the exceptions contained in paragraph (k) of the order entitled 'Exceptions'.

"(c) Nothing in this direction shall permit anyone to pack more of a product during 1944 than his packing quota for that product as specified under paragraph (b) of Order M-81."

Schedule II of M-81 will be found on page 8000 of the INFORMATION LETTER for January 3, 1944.

OPA Changes Point Values for Only One Canned Food

Present point values for all rationed canned foods with the exception of canned applesauce will continue unchanged for November, the Office of Price Administration has announced. Point values for canned applesauce have been reduced for a No. 2 can from 50 to 30 blue points. The new values become effective at 12:01 a.m., October 29.

California Sardine Pack

Deliveries of California sardines to processing plants during the week ended October 14 totaled 59,223 tons, as compared with 213,217 tons for the season to this date, and 203,072 for the 1943 season to October 16. Pack of sardines during the week of October 14 was 298,216 cases, making a total of 1,106,812 for the season to this date, against 1,054,652 for last year to October 16.

Texas Cannery Association Annual Meeting Postponed

The annual meeting of the Texas Cannery Association, originally set for November 6 at McAllen, has been postponed until later in November. A definite date for the meeting will be announced soon.

Ohio State Cannery Association to Meet at Columbus

The annual convention of the Ohio State Cannery Association will be held at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel in Columbus, December 12 and 13, the N.C.A. has been advised.

Stocks of Canned Evaporated Milk Held by Wholesalers

Stocks of canned evaporated milk held by wholesale grocers on September 30 were 28,251,502 pounds as compared with 40,405,120 pounds on the same date last year, according to the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

Forecast of Fourth Quarter Freight Loadings

Freight car loadings of canned goods for the fourth quarter are estimated by the Regional Shippers' Advisory Boards at 96,027 cars as compared with actual loadings of 91,650 cars in the corresponding quarter of 1943, an increase of 4.8 per cent. The classification "canned goods" as used in this estimate covers all canned foods, including catsup, jams, jellies, olives, pickles, preserves, etc. The greatest increases in other classifications are citrus fruits, 11.7 per cent; other fresh fruits, 18.1 per cent; agricultural implements and vehicles other than automobiles, 28.4 per cent. The increase in all commodities is estimated at 0.9 per cent.

Food Brokers Resign from WFA to Comply with Surplus Property Act

Five food brokers who have been serving as consultants in War Food Administration surplus foods disposal programs have resigned to assure compliance with Section 27 of the Surplus Property Disposal Act of 1944. Those who have resigned include Floyd Austin, J. F. Byrnes, Harry Chierholz, Willis Johnson and Wilbur Orr. Section 27 prohibits any person employed by or any person having an official connection with a government agency while the Surplus Property Disposal Act is in effect from acting as counsel, attorney, or agent in connection with the disposal of any surplus property for a period of two years after the severance of such employment or service.

Eight Canning Plants to Receive WFA "A" Award

The following canning plants have earned the War Food Administration achievement "A" award: Blytheville Canning Co., Blytheville, Ark.; Campbell Products Co., Campbell, Calif.; S. & W. Fine Foods, Inc., Redwood City, Calif.; Bercut-Richards Packing Co., Sacramento, Calif.; Delta County Canning Co., Delta, Colo.; Cudahy Packing Co., New Ulm, Minn.; G.L.F. Waterloo Farm Products Co-op., Waterloo, N.Y.; and G.L.F. Columbia Farm Products Co-op., Inc., Bloomsburg, Pa.

WFA Revises and Reissues Specific Wage Ceiling Regulations

Regulations of the War Food Administrator which provide for administration of specific agricultural wage or salary ceilings have been revised and reissued as Specific Wage Ceiling Regulations (Revision 1), effective October 23, 1944. They are substantially the same as the specific wage ceiling regulations originally issued by the Administrator on January 20, 1944, and amended last July 8, except for the addition of a clause on evasions and a provision that State WFA Wage Boards, which administer the specific wage ceiling orders, may have examiners of the Solicitor's Office, Department of Agriculture, conduct violation hearings, instead of doing it themselves.

The newly added evasion clause makes it a violation of the regulations to evade the salary or wage limitations either by direct or indirect methods. Methods described as evasions include the unauthorized payment of bonuses, gifts, perquisites, transportation, salary, allowances for not working, or allowances for more volume than the amount actually produced or for more hours than those actually worked.

Thirty-eight specific wage ceiling orders have been issued to date by WFA's Director of Labor, to whom the Administrator has delegated his farm wage and salary stabilization authority. They apply to workers doing specific kinds of farm work in areas within the States of Florida, Delaware, California, Arizona, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.